

TITLE 17: CONSERVATION
CHAPTER I: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCHAPTER d: FORESTRY

PART 1537
FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Section

1537.1	Definitions
1537.2	Forest Management Plan Development
1537.5	Eligibility
1537.10	Description of the Land to be Managed
1537.15	Map of the Area
1537.20	Description of Forest Types to be Managed
1537.25	Harvest Schedule Projected 10 Years
1537.30	Reforestation and Afforestation
1537.35	Afforestation Plan (Repealed)
1537.40	Forest Regeneration Plan
1537.42	Recreational Use and Esthetics
1537.45	Soil and Water Conservation Goals
1537.50	Forest Wildlife Habitat Enhancement
1537.55	Protection Measures
1537.60	Silviculture Practices Required, Sequence and Specification
1537.65	An Estimate of the Practice Costs
1537.70	Forest Management Plan Approval
1537.75	Appeals
1537.80	Annual Review Process
1537.85	Information
1537.90	Amended Plans
EXHIBIT A	Suggested Forest Plan Outline
EXHIBIT B	Illinois Forestry Development Act Management Plan Certification

AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by the Illinois Forestry Development Act [525 ILCS 15/1].

SOURCE: Adopted and codified at 8 Ill. Reg. 8732, effective June 6, 1984; amended at 9 Ill. Reg. 14278, effective September 5, 1985; amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990; recodified by changing the agency name from Department of Conservation to Department of Natural Resources at 20 Ill. Reg. 9389.

Section 1537.1 Definitions

"Afforestation" means the establishment of a tree crop on an area from which trees have always or long been absent.

"Basal Area" means the area of the cross-section of a tree stem at breast height, and is used to express relative density of trees per acre.

"DBH" means diameter breast height (DBH) defined as 4 1/2 feet above the ground level.

"District Forester, Regional Administrator, Forest Management Program Manager" are employees of the Department of Natural Resources who are designated by position title per official position description and specification on file with the Department of Central Management Services.

"Forest" means an area whose principal crop is trees.

"Reforestation" means the natural or artificial restocking with trees on forest land.

"Regeneration" means the renewal of a tree crop by natural or artificial means.

"Silviculture" means the science and art of cultivating forest crops for the production of goods and services; the theory and practice of controlling forest establishment, composition and growth.

"Stand" means a community of trees possessing sufficient uniformity in regard to composition, density, age, spatial arrangement, or condition, thus forming a silvicultural or management entity.

"Stocking" means subjective indication in a forest of the number of trees as compared to the desirable number for best results. (For example - In an upland forest with an average tree diameter of 3 inches, 38 square feet of basal area is acceptable. Where the trees average 18 inches, the acceptable level is 77 square feet, stocking guidelines are to be found in "Recommended Silvicultural and Management Practices for Illinois Hardwood Forest Types" (1972), Extension Forester, Illinois Cooperative Extension Service, University of Illinois, 110 Mumford Hall, Urbana, IL 61801 (no later editions or amendments are included)).

"Timber" means trees, standing or felled, and parts thereof, excluding Christmas trees and producers of firewood.

"Timber Grower" means the owner, tenant or operator of land in this state who has an interest in, or is entitled to receive any part of the proceeds from, the sale of timber grown in this State and includes persons exercising authority to sell timber.

"Timber Stand Improvement (TSI)" is a term comprising all intermediate cuttings or other silviculture treatments made to improve the composition, condition and increment of a timber stand.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.2 Forest Management Plan Development

A landowner or his/her representative may develop a forest management plan and submit it to their local Illinois Department of Natural Resources(IDNR) District Forester. The Forest Management Plan will include those items listed under Section 1537.10 to 1537.65. A suggested outline of the forest plan is shown in Exhibit A.

Section 1537.5 Eligibility

A timber grower must own or operate at least 5 contiguous acres of land at least 100 feet wide on which timber is produced. No acre on which a permanent building is located shall be included in calculations of acreage for the purpose of determining eligibility.

Section 1537.10 Description of Land to be Managed

The description of the property to be managed will include quarter section, section, township, range and county and property index number or parcel number (if used by the County Assessor's Office).

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.15 Map of the Area

A map encompassing the area must accompany the written plan and indicate the stands where silvicultural treatments are required. The map will have a minimum scale of 8" to the mile, and shall be reproducible on black and white copiers.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.20 Description of Forest Types to be Managed

- a) A description is required of the present forest stands and the conditions that created the existing stand structure, species composition, forest cover types and/or forest site-types, and whether the main canopy stand is even-aged or all-aged.
- b) An inventory of the forest stands conducted in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Illinois Forest Inventory Data Processing System (IFIDP) or any other

procedures which will be approved by the Department provided the criteria for accuracy are met. The IFIDP procedure is filed in all Division of Forest Resource, IDOC District Offices and available to the public for review. Trees from 2" DBH should be included in the inventory and accuracy should be + or - 10% of the basal area at the 66% confidence level. The inventory described is not required for stands less than 5 acres.

- c) Inventory and field data must be delivered to the District Forester for review. The review will determine if all of the information required for the plan is present, complete, and meets accuracy requirements (+ or - 10% of the basal area at the 66% confidence level).
- d) Forest site-types are described in "Recommended Silviculture and Management Practices for Illinois Hardwood Forest Types", (1972), Extension Forester, Illinois Cooperative Extension Service, University of Illinois, 100 Mumford Hall, Urbana, IL 61801 (no later editions or amendments are included); Illinois Technical Forestry Association and forest cover types as described in "Forest Cover Types of the United States and Canada", Society of American Foresters (1980), 5400 Grosvenor Lane, Washington, DC 20014 (no later editions or amendments are included). These references are filed with the Division of Forest Resources, Department of Natural Resources District Offices and with the State Library and available to the public for review.
- e) Forest Cover-Types
 - Bald Cypress
 - Bald Cypress, Tupelo
 - Beech, Sugar Maple
 - Black Ash, American Elm, Red Maple
 - Black Locust
 - Black Oak
 - Black Willow
 - Bur Oak
 - Chestnut Oak
 - Cottonwood
 - Eastern Red Cedar
 - Northern Pin Oak
 - Northern Red Oak
 - Northern White Cedar
 - Overcup Oak
 - Pin Oak, Sweetgum
 - Post Oak, Blackjack Oak

River Birch, Sycamore
Sassafrass, Persimmon
Silver Maple, American Elm
Sugar Berry, American Elm
Sugar Maple
Sugar Maple, Basswood
Swamp Chestnut Oak, Cherrybark oak
Sweetgum, Yellow Poplar
Sweetgum, Willow Oak
Sycamore, Sweetgum, American Elm
Tamarack
Yellow Poplar
Yellow Poplar, White Oak, Northern Red Oak
Water Tupelo
White Oak
White Oak, Black Oak, Northern Red Oak
White Pine

f) Forest Site-Types

Oak Hickory
Mixed Hard Hardwoods
Mixed Oak
Mixed Bottomland Hardwoods
Mixed Hardwoods
Sycamore, Cottonwood, Willow
Mixed Soft Hardwoods
Cypress

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.25 Harvest Schedule Projected 10 Years

The projection shall be based on forest inventory and will include the description of the areas to be harvested and the estimated volume to be harvested per acre. Harvest schedules are not required for afforestation and reforestation areas or when a harvest is not recommended within 10 years. An unforeseen need for harvest due to salvage and sanitation reasons may be added in an amended plan.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.30 Reforestation and Afforestation

This Section, if needed, must address site preparation, planting methods, pre and post care, species selection, soil series, landowner objectives and be identified on the map. The open areas designated for planting and described in an approved plan will not be submitted to the Illinois Department of Revenue as provided by Section 1537.70 until the following provisions are met: the planting is completed or the designated open areas remain idle and are not used for the growing of non-forest crops, pasture or any other agriculture purposes.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.40 Forest Regeneration

The forest management plan must prescribe an appropriate silvicultural system and include detailed strategies to assure regeneration of the forest. This can be accomplished by silvicultural treatments, timber stand improvement, site preparation, tree planting or combinations of the above activities.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.42 Recreational Use and Esthetics

These uses, when compatible with the intent of IFDA, shall be incorporated into the plan, depending upon the landowners goals and objectives. Such uses, as follows are encouraged: wildlife observation, sport hunting, fee hunting, hiking, photography and others. Campground use and other intensive uses are not permitted. Development of a hiking trail for recreational uses and esthetic appreciation or for other practical uses may be recommended and prescribed in the plan. Measures to protect soil and water values shall be utilized for trail development and maintenance.

(Source: Added at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.45 Soil and Water Conservation Goals

The forest management plan shall include measures to reduce soil erosion to acceptable tolerance levels. Consideration of the soils shall be made when choosing silvicultural treatments. The treatments chosen on all sites should be those that will stabilize or otherwise conserve the soil, particularly for harvest treatments.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.50 Forest Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

Forest wildlife concerns must be taken into consideration in the implementation of the silviculture practices. The minimum requirements for wildlife is the maintenance of all the forest components from ground cover, shrubs through trees. Enhancement practices, if any, must be integrated in the

forest plan and the conservation practices initiated. Practices to enhance forest wildlife populations shall address the most limiting factors for wildlife populations.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.55 Protection Measures

Procedures must be established to deal with insect, disease and environmental problems. Where wildfire is a danger, firebreaks or other protective measures must be integrated in the forest plan.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.60 Silviculture Practices Required, Sequence and Specification

The plan will include an outline of the recommended silvicultural practices, description of those practices, identification of the areas on the plan map and established timetables for practice installation.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.65 An Estimate of the Practice Costs

Costs will be estimated for the practices. The costs may be the landowner's labor and materials consumed or the fee paid to a contractor. The cost will be subject to the ceiling established for the practice under 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1536.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.70 Forest Management Plan Approval

The Forest Management Plan must be approved by the local District Forester. Allow 45 days, after the receipt of the Forest Management Plan, for approval or disapproval by the District Forester. The District Forester will notify the landowner and plan preparer of the approval or the reasons that prevent the plan from being approved. Upon approval the Illinois Department of Revenue and the county Assessor will be notified quarterly in accordance with Section 20e(1) of the Revenue Act of 1939 [35 ILCS 205/20e]. (See Exhibit B for certification of plan).

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.75 Appeals

- a) Any landowner whose plan or practice is not approved by the District Forester may

appeal to the Regional Review Committee pursuant to 17 Ill. Adm. Code 2530. The Regional Review Committee is composed of the Regional Administrator, a District Forester from another district in the Region and the Forest Management Program Manager.

- b) The appeal must be made in writing within 30 days from the date that the plan or practice was not approved to the Forest Management Program Administrator address listed in Section 1537.85.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.80 Annual Review Process

- a) Each subsequent year, during the quarter that the plan was initially approved, the landowner will be required to submit in writing a statement indicating the present status of the forest as it relates to the approved forest management plan and the recommendations contained in it and seek continued approval of that plan.
- b) In the event that no modifications are required or requested the plan will be reapproved. If the plan requires revisions it will be updated to reflect these needs and resubmitted for approval to the District Forester.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.85 Information

Anyone wishing additional information concerning this Part may contact the Department of Natural Resources at the following address:

Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forest Resources
600 North Grand Avenue West
Springfield, Illinois 62706

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537.90 Amended Plans

Plans may be amended to adjust acreage or management activities. Amended plans shall be valid only until 10 years following the effective date of the original plan. Amended plans must be approved by the District Forester, based upon the same standards as the original plan.

(Source: Added at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990).

Section 1537.EXHIBIT A SUGGESTED FOREST PLAN OUTLINE

- 1a. Owner
- 1b. Manager (if applicable)
- 2a. Address
- 2b. Address
3. Property
 - A. Location (by Fractional Quarter, Section, Town, Range, Principle Meridian and County)
 - B. Area (acres)
4. Description of Land

Include topography, soils, species growing or planted, history and map of the property for:

 - A. Open Land (Cropland, pasture, land without forest trees growing on it)
 - B. Forest Land (Land at least 10-percent stocked by forest trees of any size)
5. Specific Information, Recommendations
 - A. Open Land (Afforestation, Reforestation) if applicable
 1. pre-planting recommendations (planting stock, site preparation)
 2. spacing
 3. species and numbers required
 4. post-planting recommendations (care of the planted stock)
 - B. Forest Land (Established Forest) if applicable
 1. volume/acre
 2. basal area/acre
 3. stocking/acre
 4. growth/acre
 5. harvest schedule
 6. silvicultural practices to meet forest need; planting, regeneration, species, structure and stocking
6. Soil and Water Conservation Goals - A statement of landowners goals and practices to maintain or reduce soil erosion to meet or exceed Department of Agriculture tolerable level.

7. Forest Wildlife Habitat Enhancement - Install compatible practices that will enhance the wildlife habitat potential and meet the owner's objectives.
8. Protection Measures - Procedures to deal with insect, disease and environmental problems. Where wildfire is a danger, firebreaks must be installed and maintained.
9. Financial - Discussion of specific costs involved in implementing open land and forestland recommendations.
10. Outline of Silvicultural Practices Recommended and time schedule of practices.
11. Other Considerations/Conclusions.

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

Section 1537. EXHIBIT B ILLINOIS FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT ACT MANAGEMENT PLAN CERTIFICATION

LANDOWNER: _____ PLAN NO.: _____
ADDRESS: _____ ACRES: _____

town _____ state _____ zip _____

PROPERTY TAX NUMBER: * _____
(Required only when plan will be used for
preferential tax treatment)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: * _____
(Fractional Quarter, Quarter, Section,
Township #, Range #, County, Principal Meridian)

I am the owner of the property for which this plan has been prepared. The plan has been prepared in accordance with the Illinois Forestry Development Act [525 ILCS 15] and meets my requirements. I will follow the recommendations to the best of my ability. If any changes in ownership or conditions of the forest occur, I will notify the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forest Resources in writing within 30 days.

SHALL THIS CERTIFICATION BE FORWARDED TO THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE FOR PREFERENTIAL TAX TREATMENT?

_____ YES _____ NO

(District Forester will forward if YES is checked)

Approval of this plan does not guarantee that all projected cultural practices will be approved for cost share payments. Cost sharing is available on a first-come, first-served basis, as funds are available. Applications for cost-share assistance must be approved by the District Forester before practices are begun.

PLAN DEVELOPED BY: _____ DATE: _____

LANDOWNER ACCEPTANCE: _____ DATE: _____

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF Natural Resources APPROVAL BY DISTRICT FORESTER:
_____ DATE: _____

< choose one or more >

OCTOBER 29, 1990

17 ILL. ADM. CODE

CH. I, SEC. 1537

NEW PLAN _____ AMENDED PLAN _____ CANCEL PLAN _____

ADDRESS CHANGE _____ OTHER _____ (explain)

* attach additional sheets as needed

(Source: Amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 18222, effective October 29, 1990)

